

Group emerges after attack

KUWAIT (AP) — An organisation calling itself "the Suicide Tigers" has claimed responsibility for this week's raid in Jerusalem and has warned that similar attacks will be made on U.S. and Israeli interests worldwide, the newspaper Al Ra'i Al Aam reported Wednesday. The Kuwaiti paper said a spokesman of the hitherto unknown organisation called by telephone from London and claimed responsibility for the Monday raid in which 50 people were injured. The spokesman warned that the organisation would carry out "similar suicidal operations against American and Israeli interests inside and outside Israel," the paper said. The organisation would spearhead those raids from several Arab and European capitals, the paper further quoted the spokesman as saying. No further details were given, the paper added.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز جريدة سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

Israel admits soldier missing

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel Wednesday refused to confirm that a soldier who went missing in Lebanon a year ago was now a prisoner of Palestinian commandos. An army spokesman told reporters Israel notified the International Committee of Red Cross a year ago that one of its soldiers was missing in Lebanon. He refused to say whether he had been captured by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) commando group. The DFLP announced in Damascus Tuesday it had captured Sergeant Samir Asaad, an Israeli Druze. It said it would release him in exchange for two commandos seized after a gun and grenade attack which wounded 48 people in Jerusalem last Monday. Military sources said Israel notified the Red Cross in April, 1983, that Sgt. Asaad was missing after failing to report to his unit in Sidon.

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Gemayel receives Hussein's message

BEIRUT (J.T.) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel Wednesday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein concerning the current Arab situation and developments in the Middle East. The message, delivered to Mr. Gemayel by Lebanese Ambassador to Jordan Sameer Habeeka, also dealt with Jordan's continuous efforts aimed at crystallising a unified Arab stand towards various issues facing the region, according to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Arafat, N. Yemeni leader hold talks

BAHRAIN (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat had talks Wednesday with North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh on latest Arab and Palestinian developments, the Bahrain-based Gulf news agency said. Mr. Arafat arrived in Sana'a Tuesday for a conference of Palestinian writers in the North Yemeni capital.

Syria responds to Arens' warning

DAMASCUS (AP) — Syria's government controlled media on Wednesday responded to a warning from Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens by threatening to retaliate "very severely" to any Israeli aggression. The response on Damascus Radio and the government newspaper Tishrin came after Mr. Arens warned in a radio broadcast that Israel would not allow Syria to wage a war of attrition on Israeli occupation troops in Lebanon. The counter threat broadcast on Damascus Radio said: "Any aggression against Syria will be returned very severely."

Soviet navy stages major war games

OSLO (R) — The Soviet navy manoeuvred off northern Norway Wednesday, with bombers staging mock attacks on fighting ships in a rehearsal of defensive operations against Western naval power. North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) countries reported. Ships and reconnaissance planes from six NATO countries kept close track of the Soviet exercise, the largest Moscow has mounted in the strategic Norwegian and North seas. Norwegian Defence Ministry officials said there was considerable air activity and the emphasis appeared to be on aerial attacks and anti-aircraft defence, with some submarine exercises.

200 Moroccan aides trapped in Guinea

RABAT (AP) — Nearly 200 military and civilian officials from Morocco have been trapped in Conakry by the Guinean military coup, Moroccan sources reported. The officials were sent to the Guinean capital to help prepare for the summit meeting of the Organisation of African Unity, which had been planned for next month. They also had attended the funeral of President Ahmad Sekou Toure. Moroccan officials said they had no contact with their staff in Conakry since the army coup and had no information on the identity of the leaders of the coup.

Guinean army appears in control, page 8

Beirut violence flares as factions seek talks

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Sporadic clashes flared in Beirut Wednesday as a security committee of rival Lebanese factions prepared to renew efforts to consolidate a shaky ceasefire.

Radio stations reported intermittent exchanges of machinegun and rocket fire between mainly Muslim forces facing loyalist Lebanese army units backed by predominantly Christian militiamen along the line dividing Beirut and in nearby hills.

The right-wing mainly Christian "Voice of Lebanon" said a man was wounded in the eastern part of the city. An argument between leftist militiamen and Lebanese police guarding the only road open between east and west Beirut underlined the uncertainty of the week-old truce.

Well-armed fighters of the Shiite Muslim "Amal" took charge of part of the western end of the "museum crossing" where departing French troops last week handed over a buffer zone to a neutral force of Lebanese police and French observers.

At mid-morning, high-ranking police officers arrived and negotiated with an Amal official, Hassan Yateem, and after a few minutes the militiamen began drifting away and the police regained their position.

"Neutralisation" of the museum crossing has so far been the only major achievement of a "higher security-political committee" entrusted with establishing a durable ceasefire.

Amal leader Nabih Berri repeated a call for restoring "hope by enforcing a real ceasefire."

"We need to start building Lebanon anew and not just patching up the old Lebanon," he was quoted by the state radio as saying.

The "higher security committee," representing the mainly Christian Falange Party, the Falange-led "Lebanese Forces," Amal and the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), has failed to agree on how to separate the combatants or establish a stable truce.

The committee was to meet under the chairmanship of President Amin Gemayel at the presidential palace in Baabda last Wednesday.

The Wednesday meeting was the sixth session held by the committee since its formation a week ago, and a government official said the deliberations would be "crucial and decisive regarding the disengagement plan."

Sniper fire and mortar and rocket-propelled grenade exchanges picked up around noon along the "green line" dividing Beirut into mainly Christian and mostly Muslim halves.

The failure of another all-party security committee chaired by President Gemayel to silence the guns has so far blocked discussion of vital political issues.

To end the deadlock, Mr. Gemayel plans to visit Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in the next few

days, official sources said.

The Syrian leader has assumed a central role in the Lebanese crisis since Beirut scrapped last May's U.S.-sponsored troop withdrawal agreement with Israel shortly after an Assad-Gemayel summit in early March.

The caretaker cabinet of Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan met under Mr. Gemayel's leadership at the presidential palace Tuesday. It was the first meeting of the cabinet since Lebanese reconciliation talks ended in Switzerland in March.

A statement released after the meeting said the cabinet accepted the resignation of Zahi Bustani, the general security chief whose ouster had been demanded by the Lebanese opposition. It appointed another Maronite, Jamil Nehme, as acting chief of general security.

Attacks in south

In South Lebanon, local fighters attacked an Israeli military vehicle near the village of Zifita, state-run Beirut Radio reported. It said the vehicle was set on fire and there was an unknown number of casualties.

The radio said the southern city of Tyre staged a general strike Wednesday in protest at "arbitrary Israeli measures against southerners."

The south remained cut off as Israeli troops continued to block the only road linking it with the rest of the country, the radio said. The road, from the town of Jezzine to the village of Bateh, has been open for only two days since the Israelis cut it last Thursday as part of curfew measures after a landmine wounded four Israeli soldiers.

Nasir condemns Birzeit closure

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The forced closure Monday of the Palestinian Birzeit University in the Israeli occupied West Bank by the occupation authorities constitutes "a blatant violation of human and academic rights," the university's president, Dr. Hanna Nasir, said Wednesday.

Dr. Nasir, who has been exiled by the occupation authorities since 1974, said the closure of the university was totally unjustified and "we condemn the collective punishment imposed on the university's students."

The Israeli army announced Monday that it was closing the "new campus" of the university for allegedly allowing a "violent" student demonstration, referring to four days of protests staged by the students to mark the eighth anniversary of Land Day on March 30.

Land Day commemorates the death of six Israeli Arabs in protests against the Israeli government's appropriation of Arab land in 1976.

The closure of the university Monday was the ninth since 1967, when the Israelis occupied the West Bank and Gaza.

In January 1984, the occupation authorities ordered the regular campus of the university closed charging that it was becoming a "centre for hostility" against the occupation rule.

Since the closure in January, the university conducted its classes in tents and half-finished buildings in a "new campus," the construction work of which has not been completed.

Monday's order affects the "new campus," as well as reinforces the closure order on the old, regular campus.

Dr. Nasir said: "The closure order is an arbitrary measure on the part of the Israeli authorities which aim to hamper and block the education of our people and to expunge the Palestinian identity by continuous harassment of our educational institutions."

"Despite these repeated and unjustified disruptions," Dr. Nasir said, "we pledge to maintain the high standard of education at Birzeit."

The university president added that he has sent memorandums in protest against the Israeli move to the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (UNESCO) and the United Nations General Assembly as well as the Association of Arab Universities currently holding its annual meeting in Algiers.

Dr. Nasir appealed to the international community and various world organisations to exert pressure on the Israeli occupation authorities to re-open the University "to enable the Palestinians to continue their educational process."

New chief for Israeli allies in S. Lebanon

BINT JBAIL, Lebanon (Agencies) — Antoine Lahd, a retired Lebanese army Brigadier, took command of the Israeli-backed militia founded by the late Maj. Saad Haddad at a ceremony Wednesday in this village less than four kilometres from the Israeli border.

Mr. Lahd, a Maronite Christian, told a crowd in this predominantly Shiite Muslim village that with Israeli help he hoped to expand the recently renamed "South Lebanon army" from its present 1,500 militiamen to about 6,000.

In an earlier interview with the Beirut newspaper An Nahar, Mr. Lahd said: "The South Lebanese army will be the sole force in the south. All other forces will be suppressed."

An Israeli army spokesman in Tel Aviv said the Lebanese army had appointed Mr. Lahd "in co-ordination" with Israel, but Mr. Lahd said there was no co-ordination between his 2,000 men and the Beirut government.

He described his relationship with Israel as one of "co-ordination," saying Israel would exercise control in areas where its troops were deployed, and he would be in charge outside these areas.

He said his men now controlled an enclave stretching 10 kilometres north of the Israeli border.

NATO wary of 'star wars'

CESME, Turkey (R) — A two-day nuclear planning meeting left North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) defence ministers Wednesday apparently unconvinced about the United States' "star wars" research programme for a space-based defence against nuclear missiles.

U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger told reporters he had given the ministers a dispassionate, technical and scientific briefing about the research launched last year by President Reagan.

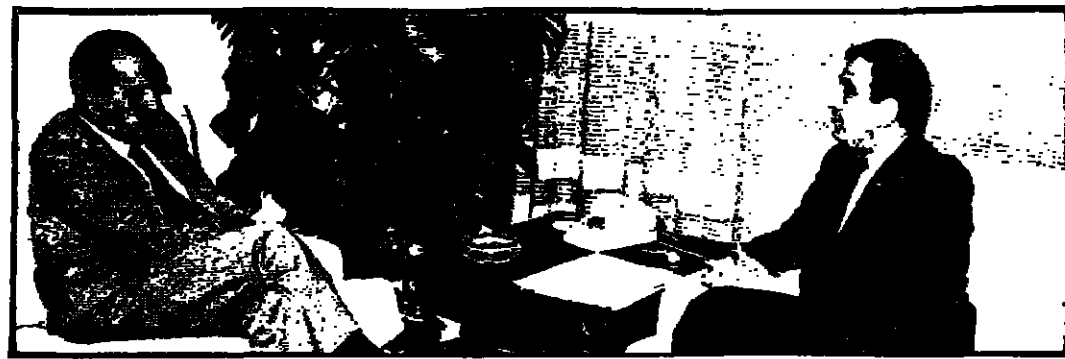
But West German Defence Minister Manfred Woerner said he and his European colleagues had raised many critical questions about the effectiveness, consequences for Europe and impact on nuclear stability of the development of defensive systems.

"I think it is legitimate and necessary for the Americans to do research and development but I remain as sceptical as before about the idea of the West being the first to deploy such system," Mr. Woerner said at a separate news conference.

Mr. Weinberger denied the European reaction had been "hostile or critical or anything of the kind."

Asked about Mr. Woerner's remarks, he said: "I did not hear the minister make any such comments."

NATO allies press Netherlands to deploy missiles, page 2



Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri (right) Wednesday holds talks with his Spanish counterpart, Fernando Moran, who arrived in Amman Tuesday on an official visit (Petra photo)

No Middle East solution without PLO involvement, Moran says

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — There can never be a solution to the Middle East problem without recognising the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran said Tuesday.

Mr. Moran, who arrived here Tuesday on an official four-day visit to Jordan, said Spain's stand towards the Middle East conflict and insistence that the PLO be involved in any peace effort have been clear from the very beginning.

The foreign minister, who visited Riyadh and Damascus before his arrival in Amman, also said that although Saudi Arabia and Syria differ over the 43-month-old Iran-Iraq war "they share identical views and stands" concerning the Middle East problem.

Mr. Moran said he met with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad prior to his departure to Amman Tuesday and held "informal talks" on the latest political developments in the area and Spain's relations with Syria, "but nothing of tremendous importance" was discussed.

"Syria is playing a very important role in the region now," Mr. Moran told the Jordan Times.

"and it is normal (for the Spanish foreign minister) to visit Damascus as Spain is willing to play a bigger role in current efforts to reach a solution to the conflict in the area."

Mr. Moran is the first Spanish cabinet member to visit Syria since the visit of the Prime Minister Mario Soares in 1978.

In Syria, Mr. Moran also met with Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam, Foreign Minister Farouq Al Share and Parliament Speaker Mohammad Zoubi.

The Spanish minister said Jordan plays a very important role in the region as far as the Middle East conflict is concerned and that he chose Amman to be his last stop in his Middle East tour for talks aimed at further boosting Spanish-Jordanian relations.

Mr. Moran is scheduled to meet Thursday with 10 ambassadors of Spain in the region to "exchange views on the situation in the area and review the Arab-Spanish relations."

He denied that Spain has signed an agreement to supply Jordan with military assistance, but he did not rule out the idea of such a deal in the future.

Responding to a question on His Majesty King Hussein's recent statements criticising the U.S. policy in the Middle East, Mr. Moran said the King's remarks were "very wise." He did not elaborate.

Indian, Soviet cosmonauts dock in space

MOSCOW (Agencies) — India's first spaceman and his Soviet counterparts on Wednesday successfully docked their Soyuz T-11 spacecraft with the orbiting Salyut-7 space station to join three Soviet spacemen on board there, Soviet television reported.

The television announced that the docking was completed at 18:31 Moscow time (1431 GMT). Television showed various officials at the space centre in Baikonur in Central Asia watching the closing seconds of the docking process and applauding its completion. The Indian-Soviet crew had blasted off from the space centre only 25 hours earlier.

Indian cosmonaut Rakesh Sharma, 35, and two Soviet cosmonauts, Mission Commander Yuri V. Malyshev, 42, and Flight Engineer Gennadi M. Strekalov, 43, were to join the three cosmonauts who have been on board Salyut-7 since Feb. 9 for a "celebration dinner," Radio Moscow said.

Mr. Sharma, a 35-year-old squadron leader in the Indian air force, was blasted into orbit Wednesday along with the two Soviet cosmonauts amid a roar of publicity unprecedented in the Soviet space programme.

It was the first time six people had been in orbit aboard what is effectively the same vehicle — the Salyut-7, the Soyuz T-11 and a Soyuz T-10 already attached to the space station.

Among those watching the television pictures of the docking in the space centre was Indian Defence Minister Ramaswami Venkatarman.

After docking, the cosmonauts began routine procedure to equalise pressure between the spacecraft and the station to allow them to pass from one to the other.

Cosmonauts Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovoyov and Oleg Atkov, who have been in orbit for nearly two months, have said they are looking forward to the supplies being delivered, including pineapple and mango juice, dehydrated bananas, mango fruit bars and other traditional Indian food.

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Spanish minister begins talks in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Visiting Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran Wednesday met Jordanian officials to discuss Middle East issues and Spanish-Jordanian co-operation in information, cultural and sporting affairs.

At a meeting with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, the Palestine problem and Jordan's stand in relation to a settlement based on U.N. Security Council resolution 242 were discussed.

Mr. Masri spoke about Israel's measures in the occupied Arab areas which he said are designed to Judaise Arab territory and to evict the indigenous population from their homeland in order to establish settlements there.

"Israel is intensifying its current campaign by removing Palestinian refugees from their camps to areas in the Jordan Valley," the minister said.

For his part, Mr. Moran briefed Mr. Masri on Spain's firm stand vis-a-vis the Palestinian problem and its demand for a total Israeli withdrawal from all Arab lands occupied since 1967.

After their closed meeting, the two ministers were joined by aides to discuss bilateral relations and ways of bolstering Jordanian — Spanish co-operation in various fields.

Mr. Moran earlier met Information Minister Laila Sharaf for a discussion on co-operation in the production of documentary films on Middle East affairs and Jordanian political issues.

They also explored the prospects for exchange visits by information officials from both countries.

At the meeting, the two ministers also exchanged views on the role of the Arab media in promoting Arab causes in the Spanish and European arenas, and also ways of promoting bilateral cultural co-operation.

Television Director Munir Al Durra and Spain's ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Emilio Menendez, also attended the meeting.

Later on, Mr. Moran met Minister of Youth and Culture and Antiquities Abdullah 'Oweidat with whom he reviewed Jordanian-Spanish co-operation in cultural, sporting and archaeological affairs.

At the meeting, Mr. Moran extended an invitation to Dr. 'Oweidat to visit Spain and for a Jordanian delegation to take part in an Islamic art festival which will be held in Spain on May 26.

Dr. 'Oweidat extended an invitation to Spanish folk troupes to visit Jordan to take part in the 1984 Jerash Festival.

Mr. Moran also met with officials of the Jordanian Olympic Committee to discuss the participation of Jordanian athletes in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

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Protocols with Algeria, Djibouti, Yemen signed

Anani returns with three bilateral trade agreements

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian delegation, led by Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani, returned to Amman Wednesday at the end of a two-week tour of three Arab states that culminated in the signing of agreements on promoting bilateral trade.

Dr. Anani said upon his return that his visits were aimed at bolstering economic and trade links between Jordan on the one hand and North Yemen, Djibouti and Algeria on the other.

While in Yemen, the minister also held talks with representatives from the private and public sectors on promoting the exchange of visits by trade, agricultural and industrial delegations.

He also took part in a conference on solidarity with North Yemen and met the ministers of industry and trade from Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan to discuss Jordan's trade relations with

these countries.

In Djibouti, Dr. Anani said he discussed ways of developing trade ties and of promoting economic co-operation.

His visits to North Yemen and Djibouti ended with the signing of agreements on economic and trade co-operation which will allow Jordan and the two countries to open trade centres in each other's capital cities in order to promote the sale of their national products, Dr. Anani said in his arrival statement.

In Algiers, Dr. Anani said he signed a draft economic agreement to promote trade between Algeria and Jordan.

The minister was accompanied on his Algerian visit by Mr. Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad), the deputy commander of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's armed forces.

Both men discussed with Algerian officials the prospect of Algeria renewing its financial support for the Jordanian-Palestinian fund for supporting the steadfastness of the Arab people under Israeli occupation rule.

The Algerians have promised to provide assistance for that fund, the minister said.

In all three countries the minister took up the subject of marketing Jordanian cement in Arab countries and also discussed the prospect of supplying Arab states with Jordanian engineers, doctors and agricultural specialists.

Dr. Anani was accompanied on the tour by representatives of the Central Bank of Jordan, the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism and the private sector.

King guest on Soviet ship

AQABA (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor last Saturday spent nearly four hours on board the Russian passenger ship "Alexander Pushkin" which docked in Aqaba Friday while on a cruise in the region.

On the occasion of the royal visit, a party was given on board the ship during which Soviet folklore dances were performed.

King Hussein and Queen Noor also met the ship's crew and passengers who had come from western European countries.

After a two-day visit, the "Alexander Pushkin" left Aqaba Sunday.

Nursery visit slated

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture has prepared a programme of visits to its nurseries in the north of the country in co-operation with the Goethe Institute in Amman.

The director of the Goethe Institute and the director of range and pasture land at the Ministry of Agriculture, Chaleb Arrabi, will initiate the visits Thursday and will also organise lectures on the past, present and future of range farming and forestry in Jordan.

The nurseries were established with assistance from West Germany agencies whose specialists are employed on the projects. These as well as local specialists who were trained in afforestation methods and the creation of pasture land will also take part in the lectures.

'Obeidat meets economists

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat Tuesday received in his office president and members of the Jordanian Economists Association's board of directors.

During the meeting, the association's role and activities in the field of promoting economic awareness, in addition to some organisational matters were reviewed.

Earlier Monday, Mr. 'Obeidat received the president and members of the Jordanian Geologists Association and discussed with them issues pertaining to the association's activities.

Later Monday, Mr. 'Obeidat received the Jordanian ambassador to Iraq, Mr. Saleh Al Kabariti.

Ministry seeks to boost municipal finances

SALT (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Nabulsi said here Wednesday his ministry is intent on improving the financial position of municipalities in order to improve the quality of public services.

He was speaking during a visit to Salt Municipality where he met the mayor, Abdul Razzaq Nsour, and municipal council members to discuss the municipality's projects and problems.

Organisational issues and problems pertaining to the con-

struction and planning of new residential and commercial districts in the city were discussed during the visit.

The minister was accompanied by Balqa Governor Mohammad Al Khatib and other local officials.

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SOS children's home officially registered

By Afifah A. Kaloti
Jordan Times Staff Reporter
AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday was handed the official registration certificate of the SOS Children's Village Association of Jordan.

Minister of Social Development Abdul Salam Kana'an presented the certificate to Queen Noor, the honorary chairman of the association in Jordan, at a meeting held at the Council of World Affairs.

The SOS Children's Village Association of Jordan is based on an agreement signed on Feb. 13, 1983 between the Jordanian government represented by the then minister of social development, In'am Al Mufti, and SOS Kinderdorf International, represented by Mr. Wolfgang Krug von Nidda.

According to the agreement, the SOS international, which promotes SOS children's villages all over the world, will establish the SOS children's village while the government has provided the land, infrastructure and has exempted SOS from paying tariffs on goods, and equipment imported

for the use in the village. Also exempt is the payment of income tax on donations to the SOS Association.

SOS International is an Austrian-based organisation that takes care of poor orphans by forming small community villages in various countries.

At the beginning of the meeting, which was attended by members of the founding board of the association here, Mr. Ja'afar Toukan, in his capacity as a member of the founding board and the village's engineer, briefed the audience on the village.

In January 1983, the government allocated 33 dunums of land in Tarek (near Sports City) for the construction of the Village, he said. Meanwhile the architectural and the technical planning is completed and construction work will start in May 1984, he added.

The village will consist of 11 family-houses, a house for the village-director, an administration building, a house for aunts and guests and a kindergarten which will be open also to children of the outside community, he explained.

There will also be a small complex containing central services, a workshop, laundry and storage facilities, and shops to serve the vicinity and the village, as well as a plot where fruits and vegetables may be grown for the benefit of the village, he said.

The plans also provide for the future expansion of the village with space left for two or three additional family-houses and a youth-house, Mr. Toukan said.

Mr. Tarek Nabil, a member of the founding board and a lawyer, also addressed the audience.

It is one of the fundamental principles of SOS Children's Villages that children must not be displaced from their country of origin, and they must be brought up in accordance with their own religion and culture, fully integrated members of society, he said.

To achieve this purpose, the SOS Children's Village Association of Jordan was founded with complete responsibility for the management for the village which will soon be constructed to add one more home — to the existing 214 villages throughout the world, he said.

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EFF 25TH OF MARCH		
DAY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL
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Tuesday	08:30	12:10
Wednesday	08:30	12:10
Thursday	08:30	12:10
Friday	08:30	12:10
Saturday	08:30	12:10

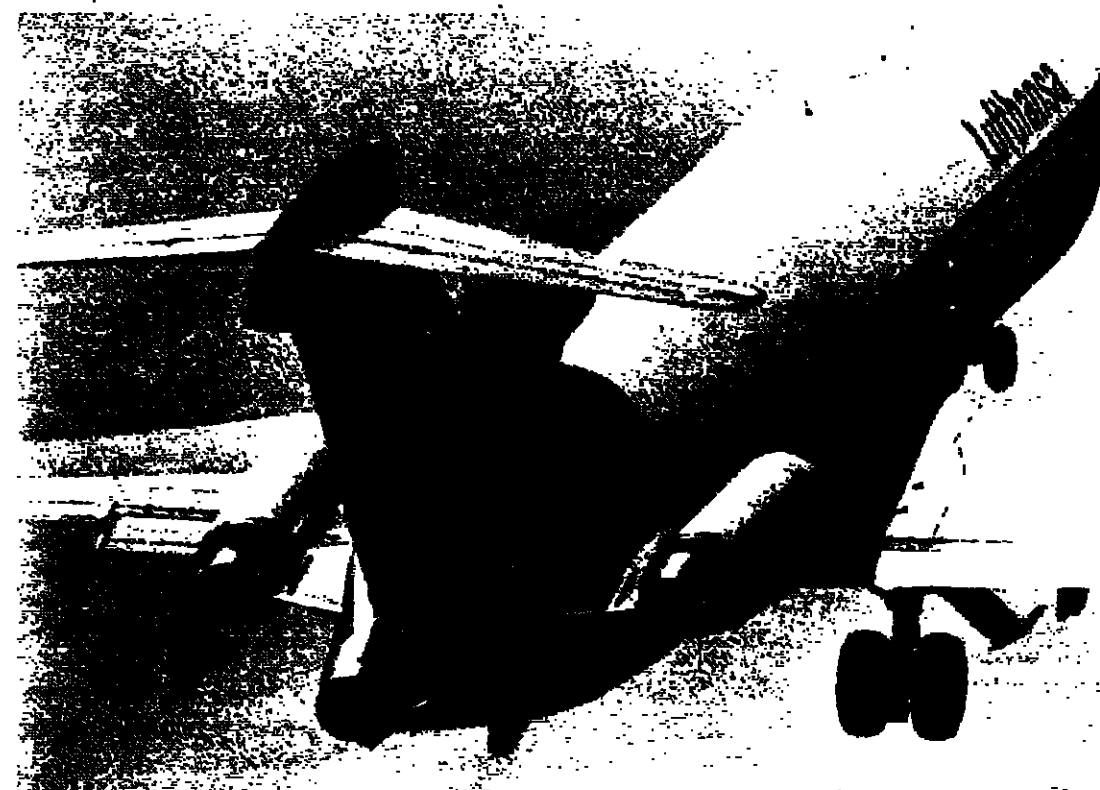
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APRIL 24 1964

THE "re-politicalisation" of Islam was and is primarily due to the combination of developments which enabled the Middle East to be dominated by pro-Western groups — Europe, Israel and the United States — during the 1970s. A major factor was the failure of the modernisation schemes proposed for pro-Western regimes in the region, the most notable case being Iran. When capital intensive industrial development programmes, paid for by oil revenues, were implemented in the Middle East "societies in crisis" were created. A "society in crisis" is characterised by three fundamental phenomena which paved the way for the re-politicalisation of Islam: first, rapid urbanisation and an economic crisis involving changes in position of classes, especially that of the lower classes, the petty-bourgeoisie of the social scientists; in the second, aggressive stages during 1981-88, the social solution was of the lower classes. Second, loss of faith in Western ideologies and a profound sense of cultural alienation among the middle classes, creating a "dual personality". Third, "societies in crisis" reflect the problems of political legitimacy and of ineffective and corrupt leadership.

The resurgence of Muslim political activism in the Middle East countries, but elsewhere as well, resulted in part from the policies of those countries. For example,

the suppression of most leftist groups and efforts by Arab governments to use Islamic groups beholden to the government against their political opponents gave an official blessing to certain types of Islamic political behaviour. Anwar Sadat of Egypt encouraged Muslim activists in order to reduce political groups and parties that were still loyal to his predecessor, Gamal Abdul Nasser. Saudi Arabia, always seeking to legitimise the Saudi monarchy, also supplied liberal funds to Islamic groups throughout the Middle East and even further afield. To create inroads to the West Muhammad Qadhafi also supported Islamic groups in Sub-Sahara countries and as far away as the Philippines. The governments of Egypt and Saudi Arabia knew not what they helped to unleash, because after the Iranian revolution in 1979 most militant Islamic groups were no longer content to serve as a diversionary opposition to governmental opponents.

Besides government-supported Islamic groups, there were other Muslim movements which gained ground in the 1970s. This groundswell of Muslim political activism can be attributed to several factors, among them the massive influx of rural peasants to urban areas, and the accompanying sense of anomie and alienation, which reached a crisis in the 1970s. All the migrants could not be absorbed into even the booming construction trade of the oil

producing countries. In the 1950s, perhaps 20 to 25 per cent of the population of the Middle East was urban; in 1980 it was 55-60 per cent, much of it in huge metropolitan centres such as Cairo (12m), Tehran (7m), Beirut (2m) and Damascus (2.3m). Even more ominously, 50 per cent of the population of the entire Middle East is under 16 years of age. The rural migrants saw all the vices of big cities: gambling, drinking, prostitution and drug abuse were everywhere evident. The only people who seemed to be concerned about the licentiousness of urban life were the clergy; governmental and bureaucratic elites and the middle class seemed to condone such immoral behaviour as a necessary social cost of "modernisations."

The increasing sense of cultural alienation among the youth, now unemployed from the "Western" culture of the big cities, caused them to turn to Islam for solace and identity. The youth of the Middle East, the driving force of Islamic activism, began to realise by 1967 that the two major expressions of Arab nationalism — Nasserism in Egypt and Ba'ithism in Syria and Iraq — were incapable of confronting their three betes noires — Zionism, imperialism and Communism. It was difficult for Arab governments to characterise Islamic militants as

It became clear to the militant Muslims that the dependency of the Arab regimes on the West made a resolution of the Palestinian question impossible. Indeed, the Camp David accord meant that two million Palestinians, including the 750,000 in Israel proper, were kept under Israeli control. They saw moreover that under the Likud government of Menachem Begin Jewish religious militancy was effective in establishing Israeli hegemony over the West Bank and Gaza. The idea was, "If the Jews can do it, why can't we?" The Arab governments were increasingly vulnerable to the great swelling up of religious feeling, cultural alienation, political frustration and psychological torment and were unable to cope with it. Egypt's peace treaty with Israel had weakened its influence in Arab policies; Saudi Arabia was politically vulnerable and militarily weak and could not take leadership role, in spite of U.S. efforts to push it to the fore of Arab politics. By 1980 Iraq was at war with Iran, now a militantly Muslim country, and Syria and Libya were openly collaborating with Iran. The so-called Arab moderates, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan, were dependent on the U.S. After 1980 Iraq was increasingly dependent on France, to whom it owed \$7 billion.

But the straw that broke the

camel's back was the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982. Ariel Sharon, the mastermind of the Lebanese invasion, openly declared that Israel sought a condominium of power with the Maronites in Lebanon. Israel's power, said Sharon, "would radiate to as far as Pakistan and even into Africa".

The paradox of the ascendancy of the West and the re-politicalisation of Islam that characterised the decade of 1973-1983 has significant implications for 1984. First, there are indications that some progress will be made in 1984 to resolve some of the points of tension in the Middle East, perhaps Lebanon and the Iraq-Iran war. The Palestinian question will persist and some comprehensive peace plan that offered by President Rihan on Sep. 1982. If a political remedy can be implemented in Lebanon, there might be some movement on the Palestinian question. Indications that this could take place are: the retrenchment of Israel after its over-extension in Lebanon; the realisation by Syria that it cannot confront the U.S. militarily, if the U.S. were to choose that option; the realisation by the U.S. that an escalated military option would not result in equivalent political gain for it in the East, and lastly the U.S. does not want to push Syria into opting for closer Soviet military cooperation and dependency.

may be induced to negotiate with Syria rather than attempt to impose conditions on it. This means that the United States could rely less on Israel to carry out its policies in Lebanon.

Without a reduction of tensions in Lebanon, which means bringings Syria into a negotiating position, Lebanon will remain a potential place of war. Without political movement in Lebanon there can be no news towards reducing the Syrian and Israeli military presence there. During 1984 both countries' forces will undoubtedly remain in Lebanon under a tacit "spheres of influence" agreement, much like the one that prevailed prior to the Israeli invasion of 1982.

Syria signalled in the release of Goodman, the U.S. navy pilot, that it wanted to negotiate with the U.S. Much more importantly, it indicated as well that Syria is determined to maintain the ascendant Western forces in power in the Middle East. Syria's willingness to negotiate is a rebuttal to those forces in the Middle East which advocate the further re-politicalisation of Islam. But unless the opportunities to reduce tension in the Middle East are grasped and gather momentum, there will be more challenges from the Muslim militants and Islamic activists.

Robert Olson is associate professor of Middle Eastern history at the University of Kentucky. He contributed this article to the Middle East International, London.

The scratching squad

I HAVE seen him on a street corner, not very well tall wearing jeans and a clean shirt; he was very close to a new car he was moving his hand to and fro.

Very carefully I go near him and catch him in action. He is holding a sharp nail and is scratching the door of the parked car. I catch him by the shoulder and ask him what he is supposed to be doing.

— Nothing, he replies very calmly.
— Nothing, well look at this door that you have scratched.
— Well, he says lightly, I am amusing myself.

I learnt from him that he was 11, comes from a rich family and that his father has a Japanese car "not a big car like this, not as nice".

This is why he was revolted and felt like being destructive. I was stunned: This boy also told me that they were "a bunch of friends to act in this way". As soon as a brand new car is parked and its owner has left, we immediately rush to mark it.

Sometimes we use a kitchen knife but a nail is more practical, easier to hide and as effective.

Yes, it is a science of its own. How do they do it? When they are together, they pretend they are talking and one of them is leaning on the car while another carefully, covered by the others, does it. It is as simple as that. No one of us can escape from it. How many times did you scream when you saw your car scratched from one end to the other?

You know now that those who do it simply do it to entertain themselves. It is high time that the parents find new areas of amusement for their kids.

bring
to it

LONDON — Can better woodstoves save wood? If they can, will this save tropical forests? "To solve the problem of deforestation, we should have 100 million stoves within 20 years", wrote a stove expert in 1982. But today, a growing number of researchers are casting doubt on such claims.

The assumptions on which so many stove programmes have been based are a myth, according to Dr. Sam Baldwin, a U.S. physicist who has been working on improved stoves in Upper Volta.

But the assumptions look convincing. Nearly two billion people — half the world's population — cook with wood, most of them over open fires. In laboratory tests, a "modern," well-designed stove can cook the same meal as an open fire using half the wood. Getting better stoves to many of these two billion would seem a way to help solve the developing world's "fuelwood crisis" and slow the rapid rate of tropical deforestation.

The first efforts in the 1950s to get "improved" stoves into village huts in India, Indonesia and

Ghana promised not only to save wood but to free women from smoke, soot and burnt children. They had little impact, but they set the stage for the dozens of programmes now under way in India, Indonesia, Guatemala, Senegal, Upper Volta, Kenya, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Niger and other countries.

Governments, aid agencies and volunteer organisations are spending a lot of time and money to get stoves into huts.

But village huts are not scientific laboratories. The sort of simple stoves made of clay which villagers can afford rapidly fall apart. Cooks leave the firedoor open to get wood in or to provide light — and wood savings vanish. Of the nine stove models being pushed by agencies in Upper Volta, six were found to use as much or more wood than the open fire. Dr. Baldwin said.

U.S. energy economist David French argues that for these and other reasons — for instance, people do not use stoves for beer brewing and other big chores, and it is often too cold to use a stove — a “successful” stove programme would only save 1.5 per cent of the wood used yearly in Malawi, where he works.

According to environmental scientist Timothy White, "We still do not know how much wood is saved by using *improved woodstoves*". Few stove programmes have made reliable studies to see if their stoves actually saved wood. The few follow-up studies made show that some stoves do save wood, many do not.

The improved stove programmes have also not had any marked impact on the rate of tree-felling. This may be because in most developing countries, people are clearing forests to grow crops on the land under the trees, not to use the trees for fuel wood.

New stoves face stiff competition from the traditional open fire. Although dangerous and messy, it can be built anywhere; is easy to regulate; burns a wide range of fuel from dung to logs; leaves; provides light, heat, and a social focus; and gives off smoke which keeps insects away from people and from corn stored in the rafters. Most important, the open fire is free.

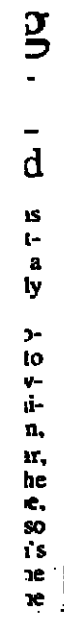
Many countries have their own traditional stoves which have evolved to suit local conditions. These range from the hole-in-the-ground "chula" of Ban-

gladesth to the more complex Korean and Chinese stoves which are integral parts of a house's structure. Most of these traditional stoves are cheap, easily repaired and made of local materials.

However, better stoves do make dwellings safer and healthier for women and their families, and this may be a stronger reason for improvements than the possibility of saving fuel.

There are other possible social benefits. A field worker in the "Ban ak Suuf" (clay and sand) stove programme in Senegal says: "Even if Ban ak Suuf stoves have somewhat of a short life-expectancy, all the preliminary work, organisation and participation that leads to the actual construction is an accomplishment worth noting in terms of community development. Women can realise a goal in a new domain."


Many specialists agree that up to now, stove programmes saved little wood and few trees. Optimists believe that some of the new stoves now being developed — especially the metal bucket stoves lined with a ceramic firebox — will be more successful. These bucket stoves may save charcoal in Third World cities. — Earthscan feature.



Southern Niger: A woman cooks on a simple "stove" made of tin — a Mark Edwards photo/Earthscan

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Formula One teams voice concern over fuel limits

KYALAMI, South Africa (R)—Leading motor racing teams Wednesday voiced concern over this season's new fuel limits as they began unofficial practice for Saturday's South African Grand Prix, the second race of the season.

Each car is limited to 220 litres for the 312 km (194 mile) race, leaving little margin for error with all refuelling stops banned.

That ruling cost Renault driver Patrick Tambay dear in the opening race of the season in Brazil last month. A small crack in the fuel tank leaked out precious liquid and he was left stranded just a few kilometres (miles) from the finish.

The new ruling puts extra pressure on the driver. Frenchman Tambay said, "I knew I was running low and I had to do mental

fuel/mileage calculations while I was racing."

One racing official summed up the attitude of most teams. "It will be a matter of tactics and strategy as much as driving skill," he said.

The official said the new ruling was regarded by many drivers as a gimmick to add extra tension to an already dangerous sport.

Race authorities introduced the ruling to counter increased hazards caused by cars pulling into the pits for refuelling. Now they are permitted to make pit stops only for mechanical problems and tyre

changes.

The South African Grand Prix itself was in jeopardy until a month ago, partly because of the narrow pit lane. Racing authorities finally gave permission for the race to be held but only with a promise that the lane would be widened next year.

Another danger spot which threatened cancellation, a too short run-off area, has already been rectified. Niki Lauda, former world champion and winner of 19 Grands Prix, said he was glad to see that the area at the end of the main straight had been extended as the world authorities had ordered.

"Cars are coming down there at over 300 kph (178 mph) and if their brakes fail, they would be straight into the stand," he said.

Lauda, driving the new McLaren, was well up in the field in Rio before mechanical troubles forced him out of the race, and is bound to be one of the top contenders on Saturday.

Cash defeats Solomon

HOUSTON (R) — Australian star Pat Cash brushed aside a string of mistakes to beat veteran American Harold Solomon 7-5, 5-7, 6-3 Wednesday in the first round of the \$250,000 River Oaks international tennis tournament.

Cash, 18, used his speed and a strong forehand to outrun the 31-year-old American — but he made a total of 82 errors before winning the 174-minute match.

"I was surprised how well he hit his forehand," said Solomon. "He was so quick that it was difficult for me to put the ball away."

"He negated my game, which is to move the guy around, and I was sn't able to get as much on the offence as I would have liked. I couldn't go out and attack."

Cash said that he was still learning to play on a clay surface.

"For me, this match was just what the doctor ordered because I hit a million balls," he said.

In another first round match, Vijay Amritraj of India beat American Eric Korita 6-4, 6-4. American Steve Denton beat Balazs Taroczy of Hungary 6-3, 6-7, 7-6. American Mac Dickson beat compatriot Mike Leach 6-4, 6-7, 6-4.

Top seed Jimmy Arias faces fellow American Eddie Dibbs, second seed Tim Mayotte of the U.S. plays compatriot Aaron Krickstein, third seed Jose Higueras of Spain meets American Sammy Giammalva, and fourth seed Bill Scanlon of the U.S. plays Paul McNamee of Australia.

Switzerland to contest '87 America's Cup

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — Land-locked Switzerland hopes to enter the challenge series for the 1987 America's Cup off Perth, Western Australia, with a yacht named Helvetia. It was announced here Wednesday.

Geneva and Zurich yachting clubs have formed a Swiss America's Cup Association which will organise the project with a budget of over five million Swiss francs (\$2.3 million).

The Swiss announcement comes three weeks after a group of Chicago yachtsmen, who do their sailing 800 miles from the nearest seacoast on the Great Lakes, said they wanted to mount a challenge for the cup.

The Chicago syndicate face the difficult task of convincing the Royal Perth Yacht Club — home of the cup after Australia 11's historic victory off Newport, Rhode Island, last year that the Great Lakes are an "arm of the sea." The rules of the contest specify that cup competitors must hold their regattas at sea or on an extension of the sea.

Pironi makes 'comeback'

BONN (R) — French Formula One driver Didier Pironi, who has not raced since receiving severe leg injuries in a crash at Hockenheim almost two years ago, is to take part in a saloon car race at the Nuerburgring next month.

Pironi, who fractured both legs and an arm in a 240-kph (150-mph) crash during practice for the 1982 West German Grand Prix, has entered a Sport-Mercedes 190 race, in which he competes with 11 Formula One world champions.

The race is part of a four-hour sport parade on May 12 to mark the reopening of the once notorious Nuerburgring circuit.

Pironi, 32, who has had nine operations since his crash, still does not have the full use of his legs though his entry is bound to increase speculation that he may attempt a full racing comeback at some stage.

The driver led the 1982 World Championship at the time of his accident in which he collided with fellow-countryman Alain Prost in pouring rain.

Among those entered for the saloon car race are current world champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil and Austrian Niki Lauda, who was badly burnt in a 1976 crash at the Nuerburgring, prompting drivers to boycott the track.

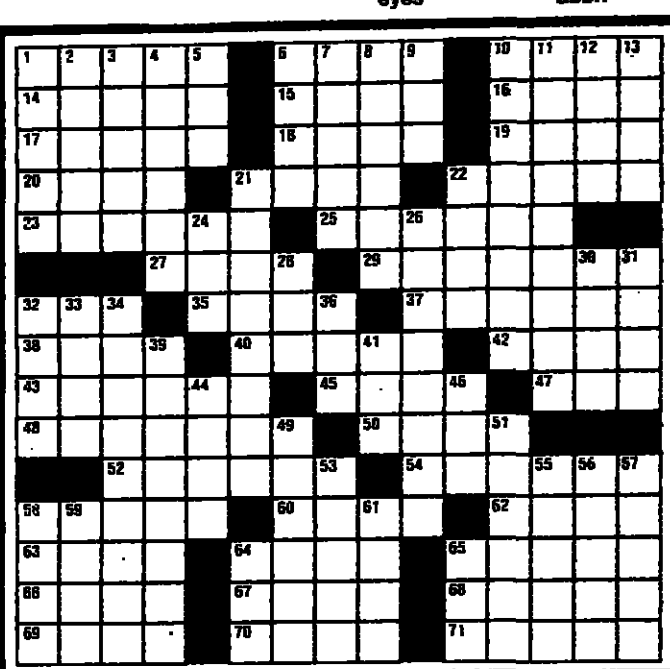
The circuit has now been shortened and Formula One racing returns in October with the European Grand Prix.

THE Daily Crossword by William Cassin

ACROSS	29 Henry or Law	58 Revelations of Allah	12 Knob of a shield
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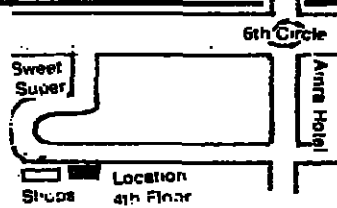
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(Colour)

"Indian film"

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

W. German jobless total falls

NUREMBERG, West Germany (R) — The number of people out of work in West Germany fell by 143,000 to 2.39 million in March but the figures gave no sign of any real improvement this year, the Federal Labour Office said Tuesday.

The March total, representing 9.6 per cent of the work force, showed the biggest fall in 12 months.

Some 2.54 million people were registered unemployed in February.

But the underlying trend, reflecting adjustments for seasonal factors, rose for the first time since last November to 2.24 million in March against 2.20 million the previous month.

New Labour office president Mr. Heinrich Franke told a news conference that the fall in the absolute total was entirely due to the time of the year, in particular the resumption of outdoor work after the winter.

Mr. Franke forecast that unemployment would average about 2.2 million this year, little changed from 1983.

He said the pace of economic recovery in West Germany, Europe's most powerful economy, had slowed somewhat.

Brandt deplores U.S. aid cut

COLOGNE, West Germany (R) — Former West German Chancellor Mr. Willy Brandt said Wednesday that the U.S. cut in funds for the International Development Association (IDA) was a scandal and urged Europe not to follow suit.

The United States has slashed by one quarter its contribution to the funds of the IDA, an arm of the World Bank which provides loans for developing countries at favourable interest rates.

Mr. Brandt, who is chairman of the Brandt Commission on economic relations between the industrialised and developing worlds, told a regional forum of the commission that Europe should not use the irresponsibility of others as an excuse for doing little itself.

For example, we do not need to take part in the latest scandal in international cooperation... whereby in the case of providing new means for the IDA the Washington government has made sure that it is the IDA's disposable funds for the next three years will in real terms, taking into account inflation, be considerably lower than in the past," he said.

Seoul plans shipping mergers

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's 53 shipping firms may merge into 16 groups under a government plan aimed at improving the international competitiveness of the debt-ridden industry, government officials said Wednesday.

The government had to take some steps to streamline the problem-ridden industry as fierce competition among Korean companies in the dwindling market sometimes caused bids at rates below reasonable prices," said a senior official of the Korea Maritime and Port Administration.

Hit hard by the continuing world-wide shipping recession, Korean shipping firms reported a combined loss of about 105 billion won (\$132 million) last year, against 102.4 billion won (\$129 million) in 1982.

The expectations for 1984 are no brighter, said officials of the Korea Shipowners Association.

Though the government said joining the merger scheme was not compulsory, it offered incentives to participating firms, making refusal difficult.

The incentives include tax benefits, five-year moratoriums on the payments of interest on foreign loans used for purchasing vessels and priority for carrying Korean cargoes.

Indian firms use minor ports

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian shipping companies have switched to minor ports unaffected by a national dock workers strike in a bid to move cargo held up by the 20-day-old dispute.

The strike for higher pay by 300,000 dockers has closed India's ten main ports, stranded more than 200 ships and crippled its foreign trade.

Ships have started sailing to minor ports like Pondicherry and Calcutta in southern India, a spokesman for the transport and shipping ministry told Reuters Wednesday.

The government was not concerned about a possible threat to boycott Indian ships and aircraft by the Budapest-based Trade Union International of Transport Workers which claims to cover 18 million workers in 71 countries, he added.

Mr. Anthony Puri, general secretary of the powerful All India Port and Dockworkers Federation, sent a telegramme to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi Wednesday asking for her intervention in the strike, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said.

U.S. oil takeovers fuel big borrowings

PARIS (R) — Massive fund raising by U.S. business to finance oil takeovers sent borrowing by industrialised nations on international markets soaring last month, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Tuesday.

In its monthly report on international borrowing, the OECD said U.S. corporate credit lines arranged in March accounted for \$34 billion of the \$44 billion raised during the month.

In February total funds raised were \$10.6 billion.

In recent months, U.S. oil companies such as Shell, Texaco and Amoco have made takeover bids worth more than \$25 billion, although not all have been completed.

The OECD, which aims to

promote economic growth, said total funds raised in March, excluding the credit facilities, were \$13.5 billion, up \$1.9 billion from February but some \$4.2 billion less than borrowings for March 1983.

OECD member countries were heavy borrowers, the U.S. raising \$1.9 billion, Japan \$1.7 billion, Spain \$900 million and France and Italy \$800 million each.

Oil-exporting countries, who borrowed nothing February, borrowed \$928 million in March, largely on a loan to Indonesia.

Total borrowings by non-oil exporting developing countries rose sharply to \$885.5 million in March from \$370 million in February with Asian borrowers accounting for all March funds.

Paris outlines plan to aid immigrants return home

PARIS (R) — The French government, in an apparent attempt to cut rising unemployment, Wednesday approved in principle a scheme to help immigrants return to their native countries.

An official statement giving the broad outlines of the plan was issued following a weekly cabinet meeting.

It said the ministers had agreed that state aid, in conjunction with payments by employers, be offered to immigrant workers wishing to leave France definitively.

It gave no details, but informed sources said immigrants could qualify for combined payments of between 70,000 and 110,000 francs (\$9,000 and \$14,000).

An estimated 3.68 million immigrants, more than a third of them from former French colonies in Northern Africa, are currently in France.

The cabinet statement said France had proposed bilateral agreements with several countries to

facilitate the repatriation of their citizens.

Ms. Georgina Dufoux, secretary of state in charge of immigrant workers, said last February that she was negotiating such accords with Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Senegal and Mali.

The agreements involved financing the workers' return, setting up professional training schemes in their countries of origin and regularising customs procedures.

Officials said the scheme was expected to form the basis of a draft law which could be submitted to parliament later this year.

The government set a precedent in January when it offered foreign workers at the Peugeot car firm's strife-torn Talbot plant near Paris an air ticket home and 40,000 francs (\$5,000) each.

Ms. Dufoux said later there had been "some response" to the offer.

Saudi company raises share offering by 1 m

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) has decided to increase the size of its recent share offering following a three-fold oversubscription, the Saudi minister of industry and electrical power said Tuesday.

Mr. Abdul Aziz Abdullah Al Zamil said the number of shares issued would be three million instead of the two million originally planned.

The three million shares, representing 30 per cent of the company's capital, will raise a total \$3.4 billion riyals (\$1 billion) for the company, although shareholders were only asked to subscribe 2.04 billion riyals (\$580 million) initially.

Mr. Zamil said the extra shares would help broaden SABIC's investor base to as many shareholders as possible.

Some 1.8 million of the shares were initially offered in Saudi Arabia but the 200,000 shares offered to citizens of other Gulf states met a poor reception.

Mr. Zamil said some 1.6 billion riyals would be returned to investors who failed to get shares within two weeks.

The company, which will eventually sell to the public 75 per cent of its shares, were set up in 1976 to develop industries based on the country's oil and gas wealth.

Meanwhile an initial public offering opened Monday of shares in Saudi Arabia's 57th public corporation, the Qassim Agricultural Company.

The company said 3.23 million shares are being offered at 100 riyals (\$28.41) each until May 1.

Bankers say Argentina rescue pact was \$610m

BUENOS AIRES (R) — An international rescue package to help Argentina pay 1983 interest arrears on its foreign debt totalled \$610 million, not \$500 million as announced officially, banking sources said Tuesday.

The United States, Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil and Colombia agreed on Friday to the package to prevent Argentina defaulting on interest payments by failing to meet a Saturday deadline.

The sources said Tuesday that Argentina's 11-bank steering committee lent the country \$160 million guaranteed by the U.S. treasury, not \$100 million as announced officially.

Argentina contributed \$150 million from its own reserves and not \$100 million, they said.

The other contributors to the package were Mexico and Venezuela, with \$100 million of short term credit each, and Brazil and Colombia with \$50 million each.

This enabled Argentina to repay \$610 million of interest arrears and clear payments up to Jan. 8, the sources said. Argentina has foreign debts of \$43.6 billion.

Banking sources said interest on

loans arranged through U.S. branches of the state-owned Banco De La Nacion Argentina and Banco De La Provincia De Buenos Aires had been excluded from the \$500 million package.

This accounted for the difference between the \$500 million raised and Argentina's total interest arrears of over \$600 million, they said.

All foreign bankers consulted by Reuters agreed that the 1983 interest arrears totalled over \$600 million and that all payment requests lodged with the central bank had been paid over the weekend.

The sources said the steering committee loan carried an interest rate of 1/2 per cent above LIBOR — the London Inter Bank Offered Rate at which banks lend money to each other.

It will be repaid when Argentina's 320 creditor banks disburse \$500 million of medium-

term credit within a few weeks, but in no case later than June 30, they said.

The \$500 million will be disbursed once Mr. Jacques De Larosiere, managing director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), recommends acceptance of Argentina's economic adjustment programme to the IMF board in late April or early May.

Argentina is expected to present a letter of intent to the fund setting out this programme by mid-April, when Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun and Central Bank President Enrique Garcia Vasquez are due to visit Washington, the sources said.

Economy ministry sources said Mr. Grinspun and Mr. Garcia Vasquez would leave for the United States on Friday to present the programme to the IMF.

Agico bids to acquire Hano nag

ABU DHABI (OPECNA) — The Dubai-based Arabian General Investment Corporation (Agico) is bidding to take over Hano nag, West Germany's oldest car-

thrombing equipment company. Agico General Manager Radwan Termanini said here the company had asked the receivers for a one-month extension to the March 31 deadline to finalise its bid in association with General Motors.

Agico, a pan-Arab company promoted by the General Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, was set up in 1979 with an authorised capital of \$191 million.

Mr. Termanini said the company's attempt to acquire Hano nag was in line with its strategy to mobilise Arab private savings and channel them into long-term direct investment. If successful, this will be Agico's first major acquisition.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: After an early morning upset, you will be able to handle whatever arises in a resourceful manner, especially if you do so with more than usual charm and cleverness.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) If you don't argue over money with partners, you find that later you can discuss matters between you objectively.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) An associate can give you trouble in the morning, but later you can work out a monetary matter well and forget it.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Forget that worry about some job in the morning, and later you can go after what you most want and get it.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Steer clear of a demanding new acquaintance in the morning, and later you can plan a new campaign of action.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Avoid an irate higher-up and be with the persons you like. Make sure your car is in good running order.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Forget making some drastic and costly changes, and get into your duties with vim and vigor. Don't be afraid to ask for a favor.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't carp over a debt, but put some new ideas to work that can bring you added income quickly. Learn from new contacts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Avoid a partner who is irate. Be with your mate for a delightful day and evening. Show that you are practical.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Steer clear of a disturbed co-worker, and then talk over with clever friends how you want the relationships to trend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get busy at duties ahead of you. Don't spend money on pleasure. Make your home life more charming by changing your attitude.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get into some form of recreation in the outdoors that can relieve the tensions you are under. Express some talent you have.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get home affairs nicely handled, and don't go flying off on some tangent. Bring out that Piscean charm and make others happy.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be a little slower than others, but upon reaching the teens, this changes, and the reasoning power gets stronger. He or she will be good at debates and sizing up situations quickly and accurately.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Being rebellious and breaking promises would get you nowhere fast, especially since later you are able to put your ideas to good use and get the support to make your dreams come true.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) If you don't run off on some tangent, you find that good things can happen. Show that you have a good head on your shoulders.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't change your mind about some investment in the morning. Take time for some social pleasure in the evening.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Forget that errand wish in the morning. Show your true devotion for your mate. This brings about greater happiness in the days ahead.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't force another to do what you wish in the morning. Later you can be with good friends. The evening can be happy.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Avoid that argument between a good friend and an attachment, and find an easier way of gaining your personal aims.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You feel like making drastic changes both at home and in business, but this would not be wise. Stick to your regular duties.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Forget that unnecessary errand, and concentrate on how to improve your regular set-up. Show associates you want to get along famously with them now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Forget financial worries and listen to what an expert has to tell you concerning ways to make greater progress.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Find some way of gaining more self control, and then make the changes that you deem wise. Plan a necessary trip to solve a problem.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You want to turn against work ahead of you but soon change your mind and become very efficient. Use the right words.

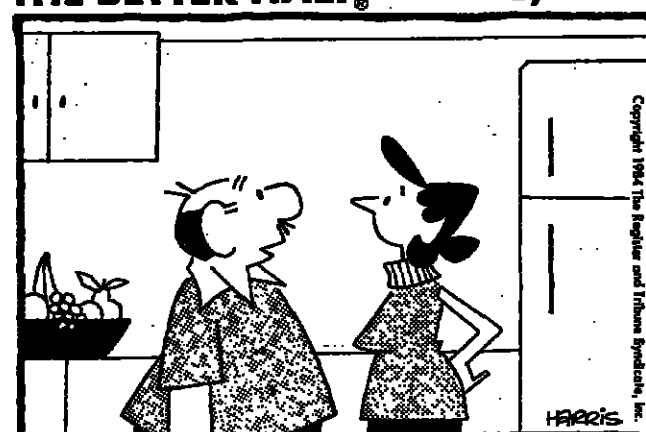
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Some private anxiety could deter you from making plans for entertainment you like if you permit. Work out affairs sensibly.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plan what should be done so that you can gain that feeling of well being you desire. Don't give anyone cause for criticism.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will view everything clearly and reasonably and will analyze all sides of any situation before coming to a decision. Teach to finish one project before going on to another. A lover of sports here.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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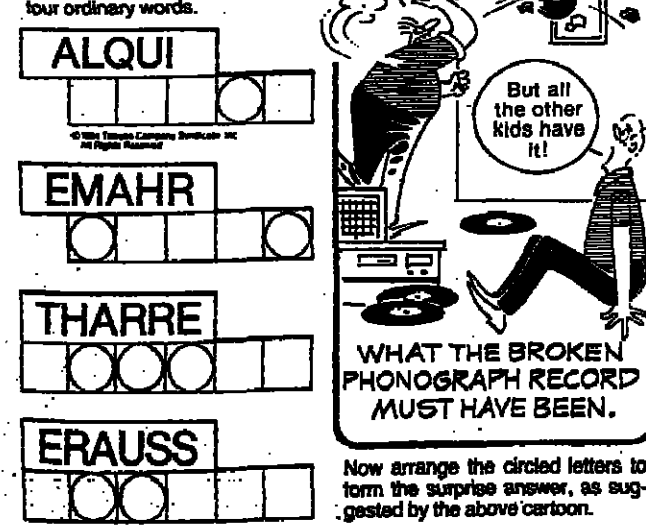
THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"My doctor said I have to start eating better. Does milk chocolate count as a dairy food?"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

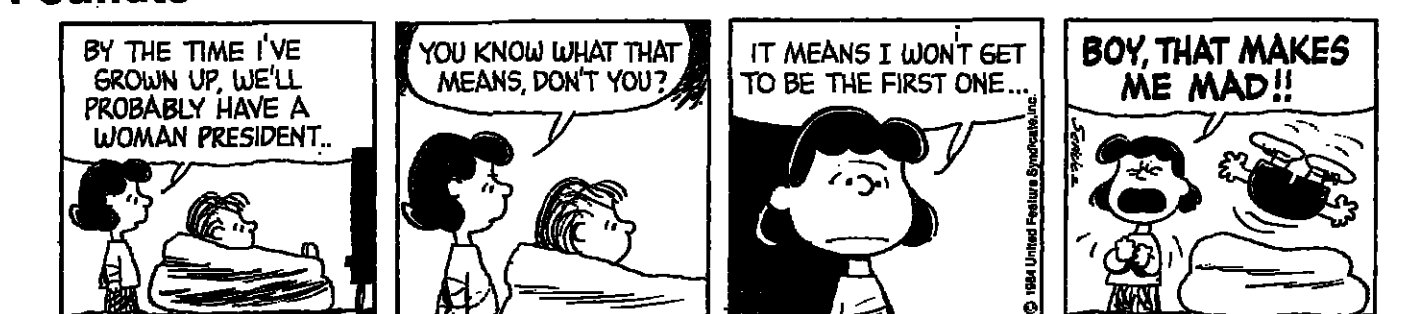


Print answer here: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: AWFUL HEDGE TIMELY FEEBLE

Answer: What's a cattle rustler?—A BEEF THIEF

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Sikhs threaten to hit VIPs unless student ban lifted

CHANDIGARH (Agencies) — A Sikh extremist group Wednesday threatened to kill one very important person every day until the government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi lifts a ban on a radical Sikh students organisation.

Meanwhile, hundreds of police patrolled streets in New Delhi during a strike protesting escalating Sikh terrorism.

The Dashmesh Regiment, an obscure Sikh terrorist group, said in a letter to a newspaper in Chandigarh that "one VIP would be killed every day" until the government gives in to its demand to lift the ban.

Authorities outlawed the All-India Sikh Students Federation last month, charging that it fanned communal tensions between Hindus and Sikhs and supported separatism.

The Dashmesh Regiment has claimed responsibility for assassinating two Hindu politicians and one moderate Sikh leader in the past seven days.

In the letter to the English-language Chandigarh Tribune, the group urged Mrs. Gandhi's government to announce the withdrawal of the ban Wednesday. It also demanded that the government postpone all university examinations until the ban is lifted.

Meanwhile Punjab state was under an iron grip Wednesday to thwart Sikh-Hindu violence threatening to spread to neighbouring states.

The prosperous farming state bordering Pakistan was declared a

"dangerously disturbed" area Tuesday night after riots in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar killed at least 12 people, including two policemen, and injured 50.

Paramilitary forces patrolled the region, where most of India's 12 million Sikhs live, with sweeping new powers to arrest anyone and enter dwellings.

But security worries switched to the neighbouring states of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir, as well as the Indian capital New Delhi, where rightwing Hindu political parties have called strikes for Wednesday.

The strikes were to protest against Tuesday's Amritsar riots and the killing of two Hindu politicians, including only the second member of the national parliament to be assassinated since India gained independence in 1947.

Shultz calls for defence against terrorism

WASHINGTON (R) — Secretary of State George Shultz called Tuesday for active defence by the West against state-supported terrorism, saying it was increasingly doubtful that passive measures could cope with the problem.

He called such terrorism a form of warfare and said once it was seen to work the threat would grow greater.

In a speech prepared for del-

ivery to the trilateral commission, a private organisation devoted to North American-European-Japanese matters of common concern, Mr. Shultz declared what he called loss of coherence in U.S. foreign policy.

He blamed this on a web of congressional foreign policy restrictions hampering executive action.

He called terrorism a weapon

directed against America's interests, values and allies, adding: "But it is increasingly doubtful that a purely passive strategy can even begin to cope with the problem," he said.

Last October a suicide bomber destroyed the Marine headquarters in Beirut with the loss of 241 lives. The attack was blamed on an Iranian group, sanctioned by Syria.

'Soviets find ways to counter U.S. weapons'

PALO ALTO, California (R) — The Soviet Union is so good at acquiring U.S. technology that Moscow finds ways of countering American weapons even before they are deployed, CIA Chief William Casey said Tuesday.

He told several hundred businessmen from the Silicon Valley high technology district that they were the target of a huge and well-coordinated Soviet effort to acquire technology, through legal or by illicit channels such as spying.

"The ability of the Soviet military-industrial complex to acquire and assimilate technology

far exceeds any previous estimates," he said in a speech at a Palo Alto hotel.

"They (the Soviet Union) have been so successful in getting technology early that we know that they develop counter-measures before we can deploy our own weapons systems," Mr. Casey added.

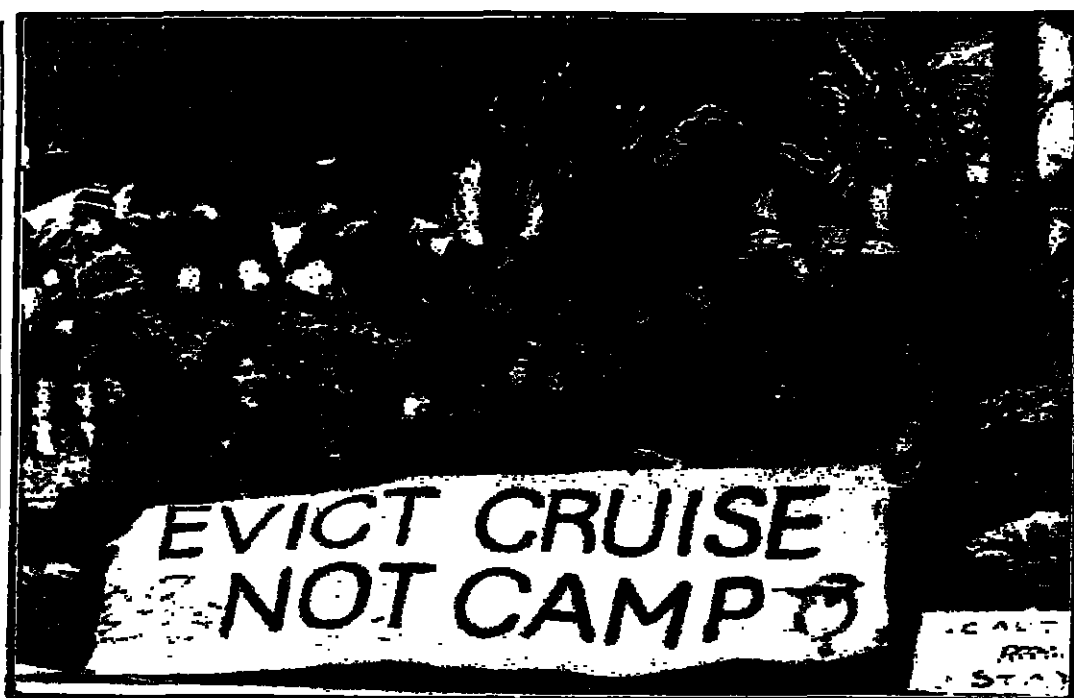
The director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency said Moscow obtained plans for the huge C-5A Galaxy aircraft even before it flew, and that sophisticated equipment in Soviet intercontinental missiles were designed by the Uni-

ted States.

"The radar in their AWACS (Radar aircraft) is ours. Their space shuttle is a virtual copy of our initial shuttle design. And the list goes on and on."

Soviet trucks used in the intervention in Afghanistan were equipped with \$1.5 billion worth of modern and European machinery, he said.

Mr. Casey said that during the late 1970s, the Soviet Union acquired about 40,000 samples of Western production equipment, weapons — both classified and unclassified.



Smiling peace women hold up a banner saying 'Evict Cruise Not Camp' outside the gates of the Greenham Common Air Base Monday (AP wirephoto).

Police evict campaigners outside U.S. base

GREENHAM COMMON, England (R) — Hundreds of police and bailiffs mounted a dawn operation Wednesday to evict scores of women anti-nuclear protesters from a two-and-a-half-year-old "peace camp" outside a cruise missile base.

The women defiantly set fire to their tents as more than 300 police ringed the camp outside the main gates of the Greenham Common Air base 100 kilometres west of London.

The main road alongside the base was closed off while local bailiffs tore down about 20 makeshift shelters set up by the women in

protest at a decision to deploy new U.S. cruise nuclear missiles in Britain.

Fifteen of the women were arrested. The protesters were surrounded as they slept by overwhelming numbers of police.

A police spokesman said the eviction operation — to clear the area for a road-widening scheme — went "very smoothly".

The eviction was to have taken place on Monday but the authorities were deterred when hundreds of women poured into the camp in a show of strength and the news media arrived in force.

The police returned Wednesday

when the number of women had dwindled to about 80. Police formed a cordon around the camp to keep out reinforcements from other encampments.

Gas cylinders and bottles exploded as four tents went up in flames. Bailiffs worked amid thick black smoke to pile blankets and plastic sheeting into garbage crushers.

"We are the women who will never be burnt," a resistant core of about 30 women chanted, vowing they would return.

"Whatever happens we shall be staying at Greenham," said one woman.

NATO allies press Dutch to deploy missiles

CESME, Turkey (R) — NATO defence ministers meeting here have strongly pressed the Netherlands to accept its quota of cruise nuclear missiles, warning of dangers to alliance cohesion if the Dutch let their partners down.

Dutch Defence Minister Jacob de Ruiter told reporters he heard "a very loud and clear chorus of my colleagues" urging his government to deploy the 48 missiles assigned to the Netherlands under a NATO plan to counter Soviet medium-range rockets.

Mr. de Ruiter described Tuesday's session of the NATO nuclear planning group as the most

concentrated statement of allied concern he had heard. But he gave no assurances, saying only that the government would make up its mind in late May or June.

West German Defence Minister Manfred Woerner told reporters: "We all expressed the expectation that all NATO states would carry out the decision."

A senior NATO official described the discussion as tough and said ministers had urged the Dutch not to let behind its uncertain majority in parliament. Opinion polls show a big majority of Dutch people opposed to cruise deployment.

Much of the first part of the two-day Cesme meeting was taken up with briefings by U.S.

Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger on Washington's ambitious "star wars" research programme on the feasibility of a space-based defence against ballistic missiles.

Mr. Weinberger assured the allies that any system developed by the U.S. would also be capable of defending Western Europe against a nuclear missile attack.

But European ministers, while welcoming the information, expressed worries about the programme and its implications for arms control and nuclear stability.

Mr. Woerner said: "My impression is that the Europeans were broadly united in their critical questions."

U.S. Senate panel vote to weaken Pakistan aid ban

WASHINGTON (R) — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee Tuesday weakened legislation trying U.S. aid to Pakistan to assurances about the country's nuclear capability.

Unlike the previous measure, adopted last week and strongly opposed by the Reagan administration, the provision approved Tuesday has administration backing and is given a good chance of becoming law, and aid to Senator Charles Percy, the committee chairman, said.

The vote was 9-8 along party lines and followed a 40-minute private briefing by senior administration officials.

Senator Alan Cranston, sponsor of the original measure, opposed Tuesday's version, saying it was tantamount to admitting Pak-

istan was developing a nuclear weapon.

"Plainly the administration is not in a position to certify that Pakistan is not now preparing a nuclear device. I think we all know that Pakistan is embarked upon this course," the California Democrat said.

The committee last week tentatively agreed to prohibit 1985 military aid to Pakistan unless President Reagan certified its government did not possess, was not developing and was not acquiring "covertly or overtly" technology or equipment for manufacturing or equipping a nuclear explosive device.

Mr. Reagan has proposed that Pakistan should receive \$526 million, including \$325 million in military aid.

Guinean Armed Forces appear firmly in control after coup

ABIDJAN (R) — The armed forces appeared firmly in control of Guinea Wednesday after a coup which looked set to put an end to a quarter of a century of rigid Socialist rule in the West African country.

Shortly after the coup was announced the Soviet-trained and equipped armed forces pledged to introduce genuine democracy after what they called "a ruthless and bloody dictatorship."

The coup came barely five days after the late President Ahmad Sekou Toure, the longest-serving ruler in modern Africa, was given an emotional funeral attended by a host of African and world leaders.

The newly created "National Redemption Committee", whose make-up was not revealed, said it would release all political prisoners. Some were interviewed by Conakry Radio and praised the armed forces' move.

But the fate of those who had served Mr. Sekou Toure and had survived his countless purges was not immediately clear.

Guinean exile circles and diplomats speculated they would be asked to account for thousands of

opponents which human rights organisations said were murdered, jailed or sent into exile.

They were expected to include former Prime Minister Lansana Beavogui, Mr. Sekou Toure's most trusted and oldest friend. He had been expected to be designated as the new president by the Political Bureau of the Ruling Democratic Party.

The Political Bureau had been scheduled to meet Tuesday but the coup intervened.

Others could include some of Mr. Sekou Toure's relatives whom the armed forces accused of "being sullied with the blood of many innocent people" in one of several communiques broadcast Tuesday.

There was no clue as to the identity of the coup leaders. The radio said it was carried out by the armed forces as a whole, including the People's Militias which number 9,200 and were expected to put up some resistance.

While their political leanings were not immediately clear African diplomats speculated they could favour closer ties with the West.

Citizens of Cocos Islands to vote on independence

CANBERRA (R) — The 300 citizens of the Indian Ocean's Cocos Islands, ruled for more than 150 years by the family of a Scottish sea captain, vote this week on whether to become independent or part of Australia.

The decision is to be taken by the islands' 170 eligible voters on Friday under the eye of United Nations observers.

The islanders, whose forebears came as indentured workers from Malaysia and Java, have a choice of three options — independence, free association with Australia or integration into Australia.

If the islanders vote for independence, the Cocos Islands will become one of the world's smallest nations. But they seem like to favour integration instead.

Since 1827 the Cocos Islands, made up of 27 coral atolls some 2,700 kilometres northwest of the Australian city of Perth, have been under the control of the Clunies-Ross Family.

For many years, the present family head, John Clunies-Ross,

paid the islanders who worked on his coconut plantation in plastic tokens which could be used to buy food he imported.

A move to change all that came in 1978 when Australia's federal government paid Clunies-Ross \$6 million for an 11-hectare (28-acre) plantation.

Last year, Clunies-Ross blocked a government attempt to acquire the remaining five hectares (12 acres).

Clunies-Ross still has nine companies registered on the Cocos, and he risks losing their tax free status if the islanders choose integration.

Integration would give the Cocos people full rights as Australian citizens. Their children are already educated under the Western Australian school system and they are reliant on that state for their communications and shipping.

The federal government has also pledged a 10-million-dollar (\$9.5 million) housing grant if they integrate.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkens

TOOLBOX

By Stanley B. Whitton

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 Across | 42 Coin of Iran | 75 Within priv. | 108 Spine |
| 2 Heavy stick | 43 Land abstr. | 76 Reproduction | 109 Unsupervised |
| 3 Pay of King | 44 Turntable | 77 Lovers | 110 Bright red |
| 4 Legume | 45 Cuckoo | 78 Lovers' grp. | 111 Bright red |
| 5 Adams of song | 46 NY city | 79 Blurred | 112 Dymal's |
| 6 Caravan | 47 Desert dweller | 80 Office worker | 113 Dymal's |
| 7 City in Fla. | 48 Cornish stout | 81 Club offering | 114 Dymal's |
| 8 Egypt | 49 City in Fla. | 82 Dymal's | 115 Dymal's |
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| 102 Dymal's | 143 Dymal's | 176 Dymal's | 209 Dymal's |
| 103 Dymal's | 144 Dymal's | 177 Dymal's | 210 Dymal's |
| 104 Dymal's | 145 Dymal's | 178 Dymal's | 211 Dymal's |
| 105 | | | |